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Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: addressing the nuclear challenge of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Joint statement endorsed by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

1. We, States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, stress that the nuclear tests, including the latest on 3 September 2017, and the launches using ballistic missile technology, in particular of intercontinental range, conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are in clear violation of multiple unanimously agreed Security Council resolutions, and reiterate the international community's strong condemnation of these actions as expressed in the relevant Security Council resolutions.

2. The nuclear weapon and ballistic missile programmes of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the extent of the progress achieved by the regime pose a grave and increasing threat to regional and international peace and security.

3. The pursuit by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of military nuclear and ballistic missile programmes also constitutes a grave threat to the international non-proliferation regime, of which the Non-Proliferation Treaty remains the cornerstone. We remain determined to preserve the non-proliferation regime and to strengthen the Treaty.

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4. We acknowledge the recent statement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announcing the suspension of nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches and the closing of its nuclear test site as a first step towards the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

5. We welcome the inter-Korean summit held on 27 April 2018 and the "Panmunjeom Declaration". We emphasize the importance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea taking concrete actions and express our hopes for progress at the scheduled United States-Democratic People's Republic of Korea summit and through ensuing efforts by all relevant parties.

6. We continue to urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to return to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards at an early date and abandon its nuclear weapon and ballistic missile programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.

7. To this end, we reaffirm that we will faithfully and scrupulously implement and enforce the relevant Security Council resolutions and will further strengthen international cooperation.